

Message Text

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13

ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11 INR-10

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R 081830Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6735

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY ROME

USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLAB, ILO

SUBJECT: GOF AND PARODI VIEWS ON ILO

REF: STATE 24152

1. SUMMARY: PARODI AGREES WITH US ON NEED PROTECT AUTONOMY OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS IN ILO AND IS RESIGNED TO VIEW THAT EUROPE FORFEITED IN 1972 ITS TURN FOR GB CHAIRMANSHIP AND, THEREFORE, AFRICA AND ASIA CAN VALIDLY CLAIM TURNS FOR 1974 AND 1975.
END SUMMARY.

2. ALEXANDRE PARODI, GOF DELEGATE TO ILO, WELCOMED CALL BY LABATT 7 FEBRUARY AS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS APPRECIATION FOR US SUPPORT FOR BLANCHARD AND TO DISCUSS QUESTIONS RAISED IN REFTTEL. HE RESPONDED AS FOLLOWS:

(A) GOF, AND HE PERSONALLY, ARE AS FIRM AS USG IN SUPPORT OF ILO'S TRIPARTITE STRUCTURE AND OF AUTONOMY OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS OF EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS. HE WILL HAVE NO PART IN ANY ATTEMPT TO IMPOSE ON THESE GROUPS ANY FORMULA WHICH WOULD GUARANTEE ELECTION OF SOVIET OR EE WORKER AND EMPLOYER REPS ILO TRIPARTITE

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BODIES. THIS, HOWEVER, SAID PARODI, DOES NOT MEAN THAT GOF WILL

ABANDON ITS EFFORT TO PERSUADE ILO EMPLOYER GROUP OF USEFULNESS OF ELECTING SOVIET "EMPLOYER" AS MEMBER OF GB EMPLOYER GROUP. PARODI STRESSED THAT THIS EFFORT IS BASED ON BELIEF THAT SOONER OR LATER SOVIET OR EE EMPLOYER WILL BE ADDED TO GB EMPLOYER GROUP, BUT HE AGREES WITH US THAT THIS SHOULD COME ABOUT THROUGH FREE ELECTION AND NOT THROUGH PRESSURE OR ANY FORMULA WHICH WOULD UNDERMINE AUTONOMY OF NON-GOVERNMENTAL GROUPS. (B) HE IS RESIGNED TO GHANAIAI VIEW THAT EUROPE FORFEITED ITS TURN IN 1972 OF ELECTING GB CHAIRMAN AND THAT AFRICAN AND ASIAN DELEGATES CAN VALIDLY CLAIM TURNS RESPECTIVELY FOR 1974 AND 1975 GB CHAIRMANSHIP. HE BLAMED THIS STATE OF AFFAIRS ON EUROPEANS' FAILURE TO MAKE IT CLEAR LAST JUNE THAT EUROPE WAS SIMPLY DEFERRING ITS TURN. UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES, HE THOUGHT THAT "EUROPEANS HAD BEEN

HAD" BUT DID NOT FEEL THAT ANYTHING COULD BE DONE ABOUT IT NOW, EVEN THOUGH HE HAD EXPRESSED SOME RESERVATIONS ABOUT ELECTION OF LA CANDIDATE LAST JUNE.

3. "SPEAKING FRANKLY", PARODI CONCEDED THAT IF BLANCHARD WERE TO BE ELECTED DG, FRANCE WOULD BE ILL ADVISED TO CHALLENGE AFRICAN CLAIM TO GB CHAIRMANSHIP.

4. HE ABSTAINED FROM REPEATING PAST VIEW THAT ELECTION SOVIET OR EE REP AS GB CHAIRMAN SHOULD NOT BE TREATED AS OFFENSIVE AND DANGEROUS.

5. IN RESPONSE TO LABATT'S COMMENT ABOUT PRESTIGE AND MORAL AUTHORITY OF GB CHAIRMAN POSITION, PARODI DID NOT RESIST TEMPTATION OF SAYING THAT ELECTION OF MUNOZ-LEDO DID NOTHING TO UPHOLD, LET ALONE ENHANCE GB CHAIRMAN'S AUTHORITY. "MUNOZ-LEDO IS REALLY ONE OF LEAST COMPETENT GB CHAIRMAN EVER ELECTED."

6. PARODI WARMLY RECIPROCATED ASSESSMENT OF GOOD WORK RELATIONS BETWEEN GOF AND US DELEGATIONS TO ILO AND LOOKS FORWARD TO RESUMING CONTACT IN GENEVA, WHERE HE PLANS ARRIVE 11 FEBRUARY.

7. HE ACCEPTED AS NORMAL INFO THAT US VIEWS ON QUESTIONS OF REFTEL WILL BE COMMUNICATED TO QUAI (WE HAVE APPOINTMENT WITH LEPRETTE 11 FEBRUARY), BUT WAS OBVIOUSLY PLEASED THAT HE HAD COURTESY OF ADVANCE INFO.

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8. COMMENT: WE ARE INCLINED BELIEVE THAT US SUPPORT FOR BLANCHARD HAS PAID OFF. PARODI'S ATTITUDE ON QUESTIONS OF REFTEL STRIKES US AS MUCH CLOSER TO THAT OF USG THAN AT ANY TIME IN LAST FEW YEARS.IRWIN

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